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EAST EUROPE

Poland  
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## S I T U A T I O N   R E P O R T

- \* Polish Government Refuses Visa to Nixon
- \* New Polish Ambassador to Rome
- \* Important Polish Visitors Abroad:
  - Motyka in Vienna
  - Winiewicz in Denmark
  - Kliszko to Visit UAR
- \* Jedrychowski to Finland
- \* Poland, Ghana Sign Trade Agreement

### Polish Government Refuses Visa to Nixon

Former US Vice-President Richard Nixon has been denied a visa to visit Poland during his forthcoming European "fact-finding" tour which is to include problems of "building bridges" to the countries of East Europe, RFE Special from New York reported on March 3, quoting Mr. Nixon's spokesman.

According to a Reuter dispatch from Washington of the same day, Mr. Nixon planned to visit Warsaw on March 20-21. The agency recalled that during his visit to Warsaw in 1959, he had been welcomed by a throng estimated at 250,000. Asked whether he thought the reason for the denial of the Polish visa had been this warm reception accorded by the Polish people when he went there as Vice-President, former Congressman Robert Ellsworth, who will be Mr. Nixon's travelling companion, replied to an RFE correspondent (March 4): "In my own mind, I am convinced of it." Ellsworth also said that the Polish Charge d'Affaires in Washington had told him that his government had not authorized him to grant a tourist visa to Mr. Nixon. A UPI dispatch from Warsaw (March 4) quoted a Polish Interior Ministry spokesman as saying that "it is not up to us to explain the reason for the refusal" and admitting that he did not actually know why the visa had been denied by the Polish Embassy in Washington.

During his visit to Warsaw 2-5 August 1959 Nixon held talks with top Party and government officials, including a six-hour talk with Wladyslaw Gomulka. He also received then a personal message from Cardinal Wyszynski, who had taken a "diplomatic holiday" from Warsaw during Nixon's visit.

New Polish Ambassador to Rome

Italy has approved the appointment of Wojciech Chabasinski as Poland's new Ambassador to Rome, UPI reported from Rome on March 2, quoting the Italian Foreign Ministry. A recent unofficial report of Chabasinski's appointment had claimed that he was to leave for Rome soon and would continue there secret talks between Warsaw and the Vatican on Church-state relations.

According to available information, Chabasinski was born about 1919 (probably earlier) and graduated from the Higher School of Commerce in Poznan already before the outbreak of World War II. Deported to the Soviet Union during the war, he was reportedly in a Soviet labor camp, and after his release joined the (Communist) Association of Polish Patriots in the USSR. He returned to Poland at the end of the war, and was appointed, in 1945, Commercial Attache in Stockholm and one year later in Brussels. In 1948 he was recalled to Warsaw and sent for two years of schooling to the Soviet Union. He later became head of a special section of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries "taking care" of foreign visitors to Poland. In September 1956 Chabasinski was named Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Brazil, and 1961 Ambassador to that country. It was said at the time that his appointment to the Rio de Janeiro post represented a convenient way of disposing of a reputed Stalinist in the October 1956 period. During his eight-year stay in Brazil, Chabasinski was said to have skillfully avoided open Communist propaganda and to have concentrated on economic problems and activity among Poles in Brazil. He remained in his post in Rio until the end of 1964, and upon his return to Warsaw was named Director of the Department of Press and Propaganda in the Foreign Office, the post he held until his appointment to Rome.

Chabasinski succeeds Adam Willman, who had been Ambassador to Italy since August 1959. It is interesting that so far there has been no official announcement of Chabasinski's appointment from the Polish side, although Willman's farewell visit to President Saragat had been announced by Radio Warsaw already on January 11. The reasons for the delay are unclear.

Important Polish Visitors Abroad

1) Minister of Culture and Art Lucjan Motyka arrived in Vienna on March 2 on an official visit, at the invitation of the Austrian Minister of Education, Radio Warsaw reported the same day. Motyka took part on the first day of his visit in the opening ceremony of the "Polish Days" in Vienna, which will last until March 18 and will include exhibitions, concerts, film showings, lectures and discussions said Radio Warsaw (March 3). According to RFE Special from Vienna (March 2), Motyka is to stay in Vienna for six days.

2) Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Jozef Winiewicz arrived in Copenhagen on March 5, Radio Warsaw reported the same day. According to a Reuter dispatch from Copenhagen (March 5), during his four-day official visit to Denmark, Winiewicz will visit Danish institutions and factories and will meet the Danish Premier and Foreign Minister, Jens Otto Krag.



6 March 1967

3) Politburo member and Vice-Marshal of the Sejm, Zenon Kliszko, will leave on March 7 for the UAR heading a Sejm delegation, at the invitation of the UAR National Assembly, Radio Warsaw announced on March 4. The broadcast added that the program of the week-long visit will include, in addition to talks and meetings in Cairo, a trip around the country.

4) The Chairman of the Economic Planning Committee, Stefan Jedrychowski, arrives in Finland on March 6 for a five-day visit at the invitation of the Finnish Minister of Finance, RFE Special from Helsinki reported on March 3. According to the Special, Jedrychowski will be accompanied by high officials from the departments of wood and wood-working industry, foodstuffs industry and the machinery industry. The Polish experts will meet with the Finnish Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Finance Minister and will be received by President Urho Kekkonen, the report said. A four-year Polish-Finnish trade agreement was signed on December 1; it marked a certain decline in mutual trade exchanges between the two countries (see SR of December 5).

#### Poland, Ghana Sign Trade Agreement

Ghana and Poland signed a long term trade agreement on March 1 which also included a rescheduling of the repayment of Ghana's debts to Poland, UPI reported from Accra on March 2. According to the agency, under the agreement, a loan signed by ousted President Kwame Nkrumah was renegotiated to allow Ghana more time to repay her debts to Poland. Under the new trade agreement, Poland will export to Ghana malt hops, machinery, textiles, fishing trawlers and newsprint, and import coca, timber, coffee and manganese, said the agency.

Under agreements signed in 1961 within the framework of the Polish-Ghanaian government agreement on Polish investment credits for Ghana, Poland was to supply Ghana with investment goods to the tune of about three million dollars. By 1962 the Polish credits had actually been overdrawn.